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§ 105. *Hieracium aurantiacum*, L.—This native of elevated regions in Central Europe, was noticed by Mr. G. M. Wilber, at New Dorp, Staten Island, in 1875, and by Mr. N. L. Britton near the same place in 1877, as recorded in the *BULLETIN*, Vol. vi, pp. 56, 178.

On the 26th of August, this year, I found this plant growing abundantly and wide-spread over a stony hillside pasture near the Parker Notch, about two miles north of Tannersville, in the Catskills of Greene Co., N. Y., at an elevation of about 2,500 feet. It seems likely to become a permanent resident, for its prolific runners enable it to increase with rapidity, and the farmers there are already complaining of it as a troublesome, bitter weed. At the above date the plants were just coming into flower, the scapes being only 3 to 6 inches in height. A week or two later would find them in full maturity and of the size of European specimens.*

Philadelphia, Sept. 6, 1881.

JOHN H. REDFIELD.

§ 106. *Ilex opaca* with entire Leaves.—We take the liberty of publishing the following note from Dr. Mellichamp. We had not known before of the tendency of the American holly to produce its upper leaves without spines and sinuosities, although we find on reference to Withering's Botany that such a thing occasionally occurs in *Ilex Aquifolium*, the English holly. We remember reading in boyhood, in the *Penny Magazine*, a poem of Southey's, entitled "The Holly Tree," where this peculiarity is noted and thus pleasantly moralized :

Below, a circling fence, its leaves are seen
 Wrinkled and keen ;
 No grazing cattle through their prickly round
 Can reach to wound ;
 But as they grow where nothing is to fear,
 Smooth and unarm'd the pointless leaves appear.

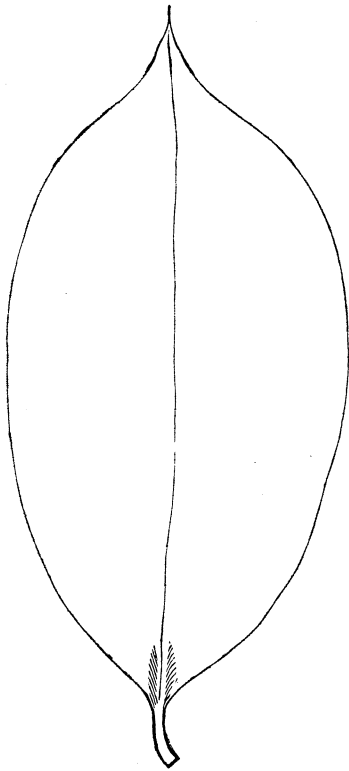
Thus, though abroad perchance I might appear
 Harsh and austere,
 To those who on my leisure would intrude
 Reserved and rude,
 Gentle at home amid my friends I'd be,
 Like the high leaves upon the holly tree.

And should my youth, as youth is apt, I know,
 Some harshness show,
 All vain asperities I day by day
 Would wear away,
 Till the smooth temper of my age should be
 Like the high leaves upon the holly tree.

The high leaves upon our holly, however, it will be noticed, are

* Since writing the above, Mr. Meehan informs me that various correspondents in New England have sent him this species under the belief of its being indigenous. He also tells me that Miss Cope, of Germantown, also found it this season in the Catskills, whether at the same locality I cannot say. J. H. R.

spiny-pointed. Whether the teleological purpose is that indicated by the poet's intuition is open to question.* Dr. Mellichamp writes :



I send for examination several specimens of a spineless holly (*Ilex opaca*)† which I first observed last year; and I would like to learn whether such a condition is not unusual. The tree, which was quite vigorous, and about 20 feet high, was growing in a swamp almost touching a young gum tree, both of them having been prostrated in the late severe storm. The roots were both so closely intermingled that it was difficult to distinguish them. I at first supposed that no *spiny leaves* could be found on the whole tree, but, after more careful examination, I found a *few* on the lower branches, but none anywhere else. Two or three fine specimens of *Ilex Dahoon* grew quite near, the surrounding growth being *Nyssa*, *Gordonia*, sweet-gum, etc. Not far off I also observed another holly,‡ much larger than the former, and, on this, at least half, or perhaps two-thirds, of the leaves were *spineless*. This had no fruit, and the leaves, as you will observe from the specimens sent, are very much smaller. Is this a male? I enclose leaves of *An-*

dromeda nitida (from the same swamp) which the spineless holly leaves somewhat resemble.

Bluffton, S. C., Sept. 8, 1881.

J. H. MELLICHAMP.

§ 107. **Abnormal Growth in Clover.**—The newspapers of Eastern Pennsylvania have had numerous complaints from farmers about the general failure of clover blossoms. Some brought to my attention had the teeth of the calyx developed to leaflets. The petals were wholly aborted, and the stamens reduced to small, green, and partially flattened filaments. The most singular change was in the style and stigma, the former being a perfect petiole, with an articulation and single leaflet in the place of a stigma. In a few instances there were three leaflets, the pistil thus becoming a perfect clover leaf. If there was any doubt about the accepted morphological views of the typical

* Dr. Withering says in a foot-note: "It has been observed, I think by Linnaeus, that the lower branches within reach of cattle bear thorny leaves, whilst the upper ones, which stand in need of no such defence, are without them."

† One of the specimens is shown in the accompanying cut.—EDS.

‡ This, too, had been thrown down.